

- 12) BOONE'S ECONOMY IS STILL DOMINATED BY EDUCATIONAL EMPLOYMENT, BUT IT IS BECOMING MORE DIVERSIFIED. TWO NEW MANUFACTURING PLANTS WERE OPENED BETWEEN 1954 AND 1957, AND ANOTHER PLANT IS PRESENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.
- 13) BOONE AND ITS SURROUNDING TERRITORY HAS THE NATURAL SETTING TO BE THE RECREATION CENTER OF THE STATE, BUT TO DEVELOP FULLY THIS POTENTIAL WILL REQUIRE GREATER CAPITAL EXPENDITURES FOR NEW AND BETTER FACILITIES.

CONCLUSIONS

MANY OF THE EXISTING PROBLEMS IN BOONE ARE INTERRELATED, AND STEM DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FROM THE LACK OF DIVERSIFICATION IN THE ECONOMY. THE SITUATION IN BOONE PRESENTS A PARADOX -- ITS MAJOR ASSET ALSO GIVES RISE TO ITS BIGGEST PROBLEM. THE GROWTH OF THE POPULATION AND ECONOMY HAVE BEEN GREATLY DEPENDENT UPON THE EDUCATIONAL FUNCTION OF THE COMMUNITY. IN 1960, 37 PERCENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT WAS IN EDUCATION, AND 39 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION, STUDENTS. EDUCATIONAL EMPLOYMENT REQUIRES A HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINMENT THAN OTHER INDUSTRIES, WHICH FORCES MANY PERSONS IN THE PRODUCTIVE AGES TO MIGRATE ELSEWHERE IN SEARCH OF WORK. THIS MIGRATION OF PEOPLE IN CHILD-BEARING AGES IN TURN REDUCES THE PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN IN THE POPULATION, WHICH WILL TEND TO REDUCE FUTURE COMMUNITY GROWTH.

BOONE HAS RECOGNIZED THE NEED OF A MORE DIVERSIFIED ECONOMY AND HAS BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL IN RECRUITING NEW INDUSTRY. IF THERE IS A CONTINUATION OF THE AWARENESS AND COMMUNITY RESPONSE THAT HAS BEEN EVIDENCED IN THE LAST DECADE, BOONE SHOULD SOON HAVE ITS MAJOR PROBLEM UNDER CONTROL.